

Requirements for Waste Utilization Incentive

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) FY2008


Purpose: To encourage proper surface application of manure and other organic byproducts on pasture, hay, and cropland. Good managers will be able to reduce commercial fertilizer input costs, maintain or increase yields, and reduce runoff from manure or organic application.

Eligible Land: Pasture, Hay, and Cropland.

Maximum Acres: 200 acres per year for 3 years maximum

Payment Schedule: Soil testing and application of manure/organic byproducts according to below - \$5.00 per acre

Producer requirements for payment:

1. **University of Tennessee Soil (UT) test or A&L (note: must request Melich 1 test with UT type recommendations) required.**
 - o Soil test according to UT publication  [UT PB1061](#)
 - o Take the soil samples during the same season each year so a trend can be monitored. (Typically the ideal time to soil test is in the fall.) Soil test the first year and the third year.
 - o *Samples should be collected on no more than 10 acres maximum size unit.* Areas of contrasting soils, problem spots or portions of fields where yields are significantly different should be sampled separately, provided the area can be fertilized separately. Examples: bottomland and upland.
2. **Manure testing** for N (Organic N and ammonium N), P, and K to ensure application rates are accurate.
3. **Apply lime** as required by soil test (UT soil test recommendation). Lime must be applied the first year when required.
4. **Apply manure by soil test recommendations according to realistic yield goals (3 out of 5 yr avg).** Adjust Nitrogen application according to yield goals. Split Nitrogen application as recommended by the University of Tennessee. Fall application of nitrogen on tall fescue pasture is strongly recommended.
5. **Develop a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan.** Other practices needed to bring the land unit into a minimum resource management system must be included in the conservation plan. The waste utilization incentive payment is used to move individuals into a Resource Management Systems (RMS).
6. **Recordkeeping** is needed in all agricultural operations; soil sampling and fertilizer and lime applications are required. Record keeping forms are available from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), UT Agriculture Extension Service and others in the agriculture community. Use of these records or another appropriate guidebook system will be required as an aid in recordkeeping and presented annually before receiving incentive payments. ***Minimum records required include:***
 - o Manure and/or organics recommended,
 - o application date,
 - o location of application,
 - o time of application,
 - o method of application, and
 - o amount of manure/organics applied
7. **A maximum of 200 acres** is allowed for incentive payment.
8. **Incentive Payments** for Waste Utilization will be made each for no more than 3 years:
 - o Copy of the soil tests results
 - o Copy of Manure/organic byproduct test
 - o Minimum records as stated above are completed and submitted.